L. 503.

SOME REMARKS On Mr. Bois Book In Defence of Osborn.

And upon some *PASSAGES* in Mr. *Williams SERMON* on the 23*d*. of *October* last.

Sent in a Letter to satisfie his Friend, a *Dissenter* in the Country. By N. N.

SIR,

I do not design by this Paper to throw any more Dirt upon the *Worthy and Pious Divine*, Mr. *Osborn*; and I am very well pleased to hear any thing that may Justifie him, or any man that lyes under Aspersion; but where the Author, under the pretence of defending Mr. *Osborn*, brings in his Insinuation against the Church, and some Members of it: If Mr. *Osborn* were as Pious and Worthy a Divine as Mr. *Bois* himself, I must beg his Pardon, and cannot but Affirm, That Mr. *Osborns* coming into the *North*, was understood generally to perswade people to lay down their Arms: That they did lay down their Arms upon it, is most notorious, and it prevail'd so far, that some of the Subscribers to Mr. *O*'s Certificate fled upon it, and left all their Plate and Jewels, and Sweet-meats, behind, and took nothing away of Value, but their Race-horses. The Subscribers, I think, have now left themselves without Excuse; for their running was excused upon this very Account, that the people were perswaded to lay down their Arms, and their Leaders were to shift for themselves; but now their running away will want a new Apology: Nay, farther I have heard it affirm'd, that this Management of Mr. *Osborn*, prevail'd in the *North* to this very day, so that they did not join with our Forces: And a Gentleman lately Examined before the Parliament, gives the same Reason for it still, that Mr. *Osborns* Brethren do perswade and command their People by no means to join with the present Government; which if true, Mr. *Bois*, &c. would do well to go and Preach another Doctrine in those Parts, and to take Mr. *O*, along with him, rather than to hazard the Credit of his Friends, for the sake of that Worthy and Pious Divine. This might be a better Service to the Government than preaching, writing, or talking in *Coffee-houses* against the C. of *England*. I am sorry there is occasion to reflect upon these things, it is certainly our great Misfortune, and to be lamented, that such men that bear the Name of Christians and Protestants, will not learn what is the true Interest of their Profession, but will always be picking at those that are the great defenders of it; the Great *Laud* and *Stillingfleet*, &c. have done more for the Protestant Religion than all the worthy and pious Divines of our Author's Communion, and how they have been used by them, is too remarkable; in *Ireland* Bishop *Bramhal* has been alike unfortunate: I do not know whence this is deriv'd, but 'tis still pursued: Mr. *Bois* must write against *Dr. King* in *Dublin*, and rather

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than have nothing to write, he transcribes almost a whole Book (Answered a hundred times over) of *Baxters*, when the *Dr.* was engaged with that base Apostate, *D. Mamby*; but that Mr. *Bois* would get another Certificate from the aforesaid Subscribers, I could tell him what Mischief that Book did the Protestants, and what use the Papists made of it against the Church at that time. But we have a further Instance, Mr. *Bois* against Mr. *Walker*, whom the World must allow has done very good service to the Protestant Religion in general, and deserves to be treated after another manner by Mr. *Bois* himself, than that he should be in print against him, and so maliciously and falsly insinuate he was only a *Store-keeper* and *Dispenser* of *Provisions*; as if that were all he did; when thousands could give Mr. *Bois* the Lye, but that Mr. *Bois* has already done it under his Hand, in his modest Letter, as he calls it, or Admonishment to Mr. *Walker*; wherein he acknowledges Mr. *W*'s. Services, and which would have a civil Answer, had not Mr. *Bois* talk'd the Substance of it in *Coffee-houses* so often over before Mr. *W.* read it in a Letter: and as for the Modesty of it, how well it deserves that Character, let any man judge, when he desired Mr. *W.* to retract what he had said.

Though Mr. *Walker* (as does now appear) no doubt, intended them Credit, by naming only those two as contributing to their Mischiefs, when others were falsly accused; and he would upon all occasions be as ready to assist those Mr. *Bois* calls Brethren, in all Honest and Christian Services, as Mr. *Bois* himself.

Another Mistake of Mr. *Bois*'s, that he says, that Mr. *Osborn* writ to none but Members of the Consult, which is evidently false, by several Copies now in Town from Mr. *Osborn*, writ to his Brethren, and other Gentlemen twenty and thirty miles distant; and tho' Mr. *Bois* says it was writ with no other design, but to make them prepare against the Enemy, and that danger; pray ask a Lieutenant Colonel of *Derry*, now in Town, who was present when Mr. *Osborn* and his Secretary were so busy; and whether his Sentiments were the same with Mr. *Bois*. — *If any other Use was made of this Letter, it was oweing to their Fears and Cowardice.* This is not said with that just Respect Mr. *Bois* should pay the Subscribers, they are concern'd to answer for themselves; I am sure Sir *A. Boyden* can, and write for himself too, tho' I question whether he did so to the Certificate. Now for the Doctrine of *Non-Resistance*, Mr. *Bois* must shew his Parts, and I have been told, has done it before on that Subject, I think it very impertinent, he should upon so little Ground enlarge on it so much in his Book; that Matter has been pretty well explain'd in twenty Books, (to which I refer the Author) and I never heard any one, that either understood that Doctrine, or the Church of *England*, make it a Reproach to her; so far as she has been concern'd, it is easy enough to justifie her: And since *Mr. Bois*, &c. expects to reap the Benefit of her mistake, (if such) I wonder he should speak against it. And now in comes the Bishop of *Derry*, what a Stir the Apologist kept about him, and his Patron *Mr. Bois* does in his Paper, only because the Bishop did not run with *Mr. Kenus*, and the Boys, to shut up the Gates, which at that time was a mad undertaking, but that the Compliance of one *that came with the Enemie*, and that Providence order'd it otherwise, it was as foolish a thing as ever was done, and as dangerous; and Mr. *Bois* if he had been there, or would now consider, must allow, not only the Bishop, but all the sober People were against it, tho' they were afterwards glad to see it done, when not by themselves, because it might by great chance turn to good Account, and if not, it might be excused.

As for what is said of Mr. *W*'s. Regiment, being my Lord *Charlemont*, Colonel *Chichester*, &c. Mr. *Walker* raised it himself, and perhaps did not think of being a Colonel then, or Governour of *Derry*, no more than Mr. *Bois*; but if afterwards Mr. *Walker* headed it, and did all the business of a Colonel, that does not lessen him, tho' Mr. *Bois* throws it in no doubt with that design.

Some Pages the Author spends about the Dialogue between *Osborn* and *Tyrconnel*, and the following, about some good intentions of Friends; but since they never came to Effect, and Mr. *Bois* sees whom to blame for it, he may keep that to himself.

Now comes the Certificate, which indeed is to purpose; the Subscribers being extream kind in it, and taking the whole blame upon themselves, and there let it lye for me; for since the dispersing of Letters was accounted the great occasion of the Peoples laying down their Arms, and that was done at the Order of the Subscribers, they are to be blamed, and not Mr. *Osborn*, and indeed since they have so long en-

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joy'd the benefit of a good excuse for their own haste out of that Country, 'tis but just at) last, to put the Saddle on the right Horse; and since they have *Reason to understand* this matter, we ought to submit to it, and to think Mr. *Osborn* a very innocent Person. I think Mr. *Bois* by the management of these Subscribers, has done true service to his Friend Mr. *Osborn*; and had he Printed this Certificate (without his other needless Reflections, and left Sir *A*'s name out) I am confident no body would have quarrelled with him, for that Argument is unanswerable, and I wish the rest had been so too.

Mr. *Bois* complains he had not this Testimony sooner, for indeed, it cost many meetings and consultations in the *Ball-Mall* before it appeared, and Mr. *Bois* can give another reason, the labour of getting hands to it, of those, to gratify whom, so many Parenthesis are put in. As for Mr. *Hewson*, Mr. *W.* may not so exactly understand, as Mr. *Bois* and his Friends, how they have used him; but I hear a great many say, he has as great a party in the *North*, as Mr. *Osborn*, or Mr. *Bois*. And notwithstanding Mr. *Bois* his insinuation against the Government, for not imploying more of his Friends; he has no reason to say they are rejected: But as many of that sort, are imployed in all places, as any other; tho' I hear none but them complain, as if nothing could please such People; tho' he says, none had access to Military Imployments, but Church of *England* Men, and so he would excuse the being so many Officers of that Church in *Derry*, which he knows, since the taking up Arms, no such distinction was observed; if so many of them stay'd by it, 'tis so much the more for their Credit. Mr. *Bois* is a pin lower as to the number in *Derry*, than I find Mr. *William* in his last Sermon; he says they were ten to one; Mr. *Bois*, five to one. I have heard as modest men as either of them, contradict them both, and by their own experience, tho' I think it not much worth the while to contend it; and if they had not set up themselves, without any provocation, it had never been spoken of: And if they interpret Mr. *Walker*'s Preface to their own disadvantage, they may; tho' I believe his meaning went further than the Walls of *Derry*; and so far, that I wonder at their confidence not to allow it.

And now for Colonel *Baker*, How basely does Mr. *Bois* prevaricate? 'Tis well known, neither Mr. *Walker* nor he, were unkind to the *Dissenters*; but 'tis as well known Mr. *W.* Engaged him in the Service, and not the contrary, after Mr. *B*'s coming out of the Boat, so little perswasion, obtained his Assistance, that it could not be to his disparagement, he ever wanted it, nor do I mention it on that Account; but to induct Mr. *Bois* if possible, to consider his own Forehead in asserting such mistakes, as also his Remarks about the Cathedral and Meetings; it shews Mr. *Bois* was not there himself, and takes things at random, when they please him.

I believe Mr. *W.* in his Reflection on Brethren in *England*, never meant other, but those that come from *Ireland*; and more shame for them to deserve it; and if Mr. *Bois* take that to himself, he may; his discourse as well as writing, shews him not the most peaceable or modest man, that he cannot quietly suffer himself to enjoy his Liberty, without kicking at that Government and Church that gives him it.

And as for the omitting the Names, that it was not voluntary, nor designed; Mr. *W.* has said enough to convince any reasonable man; and it is a shame Mr. *Bois* should still complain.

Mr. *Bois* ends all, with shewing his concern for the failures of Mr. *W*'s. Apologist; *he will not* say he was the *Author*, but would have us believe he knows him, 'tis so worthy a piece; the Reader must know he had a hand in it, and therefore we must be satisfied with Mr. *Bois*'s concessions on his behalf, and excuse the poor Gentleman for telling so many false Stories to no purpose, but to do mischief, and to possess his own party of wrong done them, no body knows by whom, nor how.

I hope that party is wiser and better dispos'd, than to be warm'd, or to Interest themselves on the account of such cavillers; their Friends in *England*, do not give them any Examples of writing or speaking much against us, only those of them that have their protection and bread among us, are the most troublesome and noisy; 'tis a very ill use they make of their Favours they meet, that they should dispose them to anger, and cunning Reflection against the Government they have them from. I do not say this only with Relation to Mr. *Bois*, but to another Worthy and Pious Divine, that Preached a Sermon the 23d of *October* last, not so much against Papists as Protestants; poor King *Charles* the First, and the Duke of *Ormond* cannot escape him;

and, but that he has more Senſe and Piety than his Lordſhip, a Right Reverend Biſhop (I ſuppoſe for putting that Rebellion on Papiſts) as he calls him, had been anſwered by him, and ſure he would do it moſt effectally out of the Councels, Fathers, and Hebrew Text that he is ſo well acquainted with, and that has furniſhed his Margin with Quotations, to amuſe his ſimple Reader; an Art in which he is ſingular. In his 10th. *page*, ſee what People he chooſes for Popiſh deſigns, the only oppoſers of them, that if they could have kept their places, *would have ſerved* thoſe Intereſts; ſo that all the Champions for the *Proteſtant* Religion in the Late Reign, were only Diſſemblers and Sicophants. In the 24th. *page*, he tells of ſome Friends, Papiſts have among us, under a Proteſtant Name; ſo that the old Jyggle in Maſquerade muſt come up again. I am much troubled to ſee ſome few indeed of that name ſo ſtubborn under this Government, but I am very confident they will never fight for Popery, no more than Mr. *Osborn* or Mr. *Bois*; but *their* Conſciences have been a long time troubleſome, and why ſhould they envy others the ſame pretence?

25. *pag.* You have a Remark upon the Haranges of Clergy-men that were to ſet up Arbitrary Power, (which if it were not for ſuch fellows as our Authors, it could never be pretended to) what ever they ſay to the contrary) and then he is a little too ſevere upon their bad Husbandry and Poverty: But alas! that is adding affliction to affliction; and tis no Argument, and I am ſure, no good practice; Mr. *Williams* knows it more Chriſtian like to Relieve the diſtreſſed, than to reproach them with their neceſſities; but ſowerneſs and ill nature produces contrary effects. Then for *Derry*, 'tis his ſore place, you muſt not touch him there; he knows who preſerved it, and they were ten to one: Come, this is not the ſpirit of meekneſs and humility; and I am confident Mr. *Williams* Auditors came from that Sermon more prejudiced by it againſt the Church of *England*, than againſt Papiſts; I am ſure I met ſome of them that were ſo, and I am ſorry that under the pretence of Peace to be promoted among Proteſtants, and a juſt reſent againſt Papiſts, ſuch malicious and miſchievous inſinuations ſhould appear in a Sermon on ſuch an occaſion; ſuch men cannot but know it a diſſervice to the publick at this time, to warm their People againſt us, when there are ſuch endeavours on foot for a laſting Peace and Union among us; and when all People ſhould contribute their utmoſt to the effecting of it; and it would more eſpecially become Mr. *Bois* and Mr. *Williams* to add their mite to ſo good a deſign, for it would be ſome reflection on ſuch to perplex that Government, where they have their Shelter and Protection, and to return Scorpions to beget diſſenſion for the Bread is given them, and the Charity that feeds them. I have run theſe things over haſtily, if any thing be wanting, I will make it up in diſcourſe the next time we meet: I am,

Sir, Yours,

N. N.

This was ſoon after it came out fully anſwered.

LONDON,

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